



EAST GRINSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR
THE YEAR 1950



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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

JOHN PETRIE

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector

WM. H. DUNHAM

M.B.E., Cert. R.S.I.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Clerk to the Department

P. F. WEST

A.R.San.I., A.S.I.A.

Rodent Officer

H. T. W. HEARD

EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1950

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EAST GRINSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1950. The report is prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 112/50, dated 6th December, 1950.

The Crude Death Rate is 11.84, as compared with 15.45 for 1949. The standardised Death Rate is 9.30, compared with 11.6 for England and Wales. The Standardised Death Rate is obtained by the application of a "comparability factor", making allowance for the age and sex distribution of England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 17.65, which compares with 18.41 for the previous year and with 29.8 for England and Wales.

The Registrar-General has issued a Preliminary Report on the Census of England and Wales, 1951, and the population of East Grinstead is shown to be 10,845 persons, 4,778 males and 6,067 females. The corresponding figures in the 1931 Census were 8,728 persons, 3,918 males and 4,810 females. The increase is 24.3% of the 1931 population.

The Birth Rate is 15.37, which compares with 14.82 for the previous year. The Standardised Birth Rate is 15.98, compared with 15.8 for England and Wales.

There were no deaths of children under the age of 2 years from diarrhoea or enteritis and no deaths from maternal causes.

No deaths occurred from scarlet fever, typhoid fever, diphtheria or whooping cough.

Seven cases of scabies were notified during the year. All seven cases received treatment at the Council's Cleansing Station at the Council Offices.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

I am pleased to report that no case of diphtheria was notified in the district for the fifth successive year. From the table included in this report it will be seen that a high rate of diphtheria immunisation has been maintained throughout the year, with a slight increase in the lower age group and a small decrease in the higher age group compared with the previous year.

On the 5th July, 1948, compulsory vaccination ceased and the provision of facilities for vaccination became a function of the County Council. The following procedure was instituted in this district.

On the day each child becomes four months old a leaflet advising vaccination at about the fourth month of age is sent to its parents, the option being given of free treatment being carried out by the family doctor at his surgery, or at clinics arranged by the Council.

During the year ended 31st December, 1950, the following vaccinations and revaccinations were carried out at Clinics and at doctors' surgeries. Grouped according to age vaccinations were : under 1 year, 110 ; 1—4 years, 14 ; 5—14 years, 11 ; over 15 years, 14 ; making a total of 149. Revaccinations were : under 1 year, 3 ; 1—4 years, 6 ; 5—14 years, 10 ; over 15 years, 31 ; making a total of 50.

The recent outbreak of smallpox in Brighton stimulated a rapidly increasing demand on the general practitioners of this town for protective vaccination, and it became necessary to maintain a stock of vaccine lymph in the public health office for issue to doctors.

During this period 3,297 persons were vaccinated or revaccinated.

In this report an account is given of the first results of the adoption by the Council of the Clean Food Byelaws. The task of securing their effective application has been lightened by the ready co-operation of the great majority of food traders. The housewife can reward the conscientious shopkeeper, and ensure the safety of her family from food infections, by patronising only shops where hygienic methods are in use.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN PETRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the
year 1950

DISEASE	Cases Notified	Cases to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	30	16	—
Pneumonia	4	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—	—
Measles	19	10	—
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Scabies	7	—	—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE					Age Groups								
					0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	18	1	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	6	8	4	—	1	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scabies	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	1	—	3	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1950

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	—
45	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Summary of New Cases and Mortality during the Years 1935—1950

YEAR	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
1935	3	3	—	—	6	2	2	1	—	5
1936	4	4	—	1	9	2	—	—	—	2
1937	3	4	1	4	12	2	1	1	2	6
1938	4	—	1	1	6	2	3	1	1	7
1939	1	1	1	3	6	—	—	1	—	1
1940	7	6	1	—	14	2	2	—	1	5
1941	2	2	1	1	6	1	2	—	—	3
1942	3	3	—	2	8	2	1	—	—	3
1943	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
1944	5	3	1	2	11	—	—	—	—	—
1945	3	3	2	1	9	1	1	1	—	3
1946	3	2	3	1	9	—	—	—	1	1
1947	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
1948	3	2	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	3
1949	4	2	—	—	6	2	1	—	—	3
1950	6	5	—	—	11	5	—	1	—	6

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Summary of Immunisation State in East Grinstead Urban District at 31st December, 1950

0—5 YEARS

Estimated Mid-year Population (Registrar-General)...	...	...	954
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	777
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	81.4

1—5 YEARS

Actual Population on Immunisation Register	...	...	793
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	763
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	96.2

5—15 YEARS (EAST GRINSTEAD CHILDREN ONLY)

Estimated Mid-year Population (Registrar-General)	...	...	1597
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	1531
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	95.9

5—15 YEARS (INCLUDING CHILDREN ATTENDING EAST GRINSTEAD SCHOOLS ALTHOUGH LIVING OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT)

Number on Immunisation Register	...	...	1923
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	1887
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	98.1

1—15 YEARS (EAST GRINSTEAD CHILDREN ONLY)

Number of Children on Immunisation Register	...	...	2359
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	2294
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	97.2

0—15 YEARS (EAST GRINSTEAD CHILDREN ONLY)

Estimated Mid-year Population (Registrar-General)...	...	...	2551
Number of Children Immunised	...	...	2308
<i>Percentage Immunised</i>	...	...	90.5

EAST SUSSEX MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

This Unit was established at the Council Offices, East Grinstead, during February, 1951, and appended is an analysis of the results of the survey carried out, with the comments of the Medical Director.

Persons attending were photographed on 35 mm. film, and those found to be not quite normal were asked to be photographed again on full-sized film.

All films were examined by the Medical Director, a Specialist Chest Physician, and in each case having some abnormality the family doctor was given a full report. The result of the examination was entirely confidential, and in all cases action was taken only through the family doctor. The examinations were free and voluntary, and separate sessions were arranged for men and women.

Pulmonary tuberculosis can be diagnosed in its early stages by radiography and it is wise for everyone to have a periodical X-Ray examination of the chest. Those suffering from prolonged chest complaints, winter cough or unexplained debility should do so without fail.

Delay through dread of having fears confirmed is unjustifiable when it is realised that treatment in the early stage of the disease will almost certainly result in cure ; and immediate precautions can be taken to protect other members of the family from infection.

Anyone who was unable to take advantage of the Radiography Unit on its visit to East Grinstead may still have the facilities offered by writing for an appointment to the Director, East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit, 26 Ditchling Road, Brighton 7, when arrangements can be made for a visit to the Unit wherever it is in operation in the County.

Analysis of Results of Survey Carried out at East Grinstead

PART I—STAGES OF PROCEDURE

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Total</i>
(c) Total Radiographed	663	964	1627
(d) Total passed on Miniature Film ...	580	864	1444
(e) Total recalled for Large Film ...	53	73	126
(f) Total classified abnormal on Miniature Film	45	55	100
(g) Total classified abnormal on Large Film	38	47	85
(h) Total abnormal	83	102	185

PART II—ANALYSIS OF ABNORMALS (LARGE FILMS)

	<i>Men</i> % of (c)	<i>Women</i> % of (c)	<i>Total</i> % of (c)
1. Non-tuberculous—Cardiac Disease ...	3.01	2.2	2.52
Other Abnormalities			
2. Previously diagnosed Tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
3. Tuberculous lesions requiring no action (including inactive primary lesions)	2.5	2.4	2.45
4. Newly discovered probably significant tuberculous lesions ... ..	.15	.31	.24

Comments

Group (f) consists of minor congenital abnormalities, calcified lesion, etc., and is only of statistical importance.

The customary overall average of lesions as under heading II (4) is .40%, so that East Grinstead is well below the average.

FOOD HYGIENE

Clean Food Byelaws

The Model Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air were adopted without alteration by the Council on 6th February, 1950, and came into operation on 15th May, 1950.

The Sanitary Inspector handed a copy of these Byelaws to each food trader and at the same time explained their significance, and proffered the help of the Public Health Department in securing their effective interpretation.

Local food traders were invited to send representatives to attend one of three meetings held at the Council Offices on 10th, 11th and 14th July. The meetings were well attended and the principle of food protection as applied to the different trades was fully discussed. I explained the standard of food protection considered reasonably necessary and was able to agree with the traders how best they could achieve this standard in their respective trades.

Stress was laid on the following points :—

- (1) Food should not be displayed outside shops.
- (2) Open fronted shops should be enclosed or in the case of shops with opening windows, these should be kept closed.
- (3) Food should be placed and protected to prevent risk of contamination by customers, animals or insects.
- (4) A minimum only of food should be displayed and protected when displayed.
- (5) Food should be stored in such a manner as to prevent contamination and should be kept cool.
- (6) Washing facilities for food handlers should be provided in all food premises and should include a constant supply of hot water.
- (7) Food handlers must appreciate their responsibility in maintaining the health of the community ; personal hygiene must be well understood and strictly observed.
- (8) Dogs should not enter food shops.

As a result of this action there has been a general improvement in the protection of food exposed for sale in shops throughout the district.

No food is displayed outside shops. Fruit and vegetables are no longer displayed in the open air.

There are now no open-fronted shops, and windows are kept closed.

Glass counter screens to protect food from handling and the effects of coughing and sneezing are being more largely used. Food is not now stored on the floors of shops.

Appreciation of the benefits of low temperature for storage is growing, and more facilities are being provided.

All foodshops have facilities for handwashing by food handlers and a constant supply of hot water is provided in nearly all cases.

Education of food handlers is continually undertaken during frequent visits of inspection. Much interest is shown and an understanding of the reasons underlying hygiene requirements is growing.

Street Trading

During the summer a number of street traders occupied the bomb-damaged site in London Road, selling fruit and vegetables from open barrows and stalls

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(For comparison the figures for 1949 are shown in brackets)

Area	6,597 acres
Registrar-General's Estimated Population	11,060 (11,000)
Density of Population per Acre	1.68 (1.64)
Rateable Value	£99,931 (£95,963)
Amount Represented by 1d. Rate	£407 (£388)
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	15.37 (14.82)
Standardised Birth Rate	15.98
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population	11.48 (15.45)
Standardised Death Rate	9.3 (12.67)
Infantile Mortality Rate	17.65 (18.41)

BIRTHS VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate						78	81	159
Illegitimate						6	5	11
Total Live Births						84	86	170

BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS 15.37

Comparability Factor 1.04

STANDARDISED BIRTH RATE 15.98

STILL BIRTHS						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate						—	3	3
Illegitimate						—	—	—
Total Still Births						—	3	3

RATE PER 1,000 OF THE ESTIMATED
POPULATION27

DEATHS						Male	Female	Total
						68	59	127

CRUDE DEATH RATE PER 1,000
POPULATION 11.48

Comparability Factor81

STANDARDISED DEATH RATE 9.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY						Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age						1	1	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age... ..						2	1	3

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE PER
1,000 LIVE BIRTHS 17.65

FOOD HYGIENE

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Total Still Births						—	3	3

RATE PER 1,000 OF THE ESTIMATED
POPULATION27

Deaths						Male	Female	Total
CRUDE DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION						68	59	127
Comparability Factor								
STANDARDISED DEATH RATE								

Infantile Mortality						Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age						1	1	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age... ..						2	1	3

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE PER
1,000 LIVE BIRTHS 17.65

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1935-1950

YEAR	Estim- ated Popu- lation	Number of Births							Birth Rate	Number of Deaths				Death Rate	Infant's Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural increase of Births over Deaths
		Legitimate			Illegitimate					M	F	Total	M		F	Total			
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total												
1935	9,340	55	57	112	2	1	3	12.31	59	50	109	11.67	1	3	4	34.8	6		
1936	9,400	61	50	111	1	1	2	12.02	64	53	117	12.45	2	2	4	34.8	— 4		
1937	9,519	55	58	113	2	4	6	12.5	49	77	126	13.24	1	1	2	16.81	— 7		
1938	9,655	59	47	106	3	2	5	11.5	61	67	128	13.26	5	—	5	45.05	—17		
1939	10,100	66	56	122	2	7	9	13.49	65	68	133	13.19	2	4	6	45.8	— 2		
1940	10,810	73	51	124	3	1	4	11.84	57	80	137	12.67	2	5	7	54.59	— 9		
1941	12,750	89	72	161	8	9	17	13.85	60	85	145	11.37	2	2	4	28.1	33		
1942	10,720	74	81	155	5	7	12	15.58	54	73	127	11.8	2	3	5	29.94	40		
1943	10,280	87	79	166	7	13	20	18.09	62	108	170	16.5	2	2	4	21.5	16		
1944	9,648	68	81	149	15	14	29	18.44	73	74	147	15.23	2	3	5	28.09	31		
1945	9,910	57	65	122	11	4	15	13.82	68	78	146	14.73	4	3	7	51.09	— 9		
1946	10,580	88	94	182	7	5	12	18.34	59	56	115	10.87	6	2	8	41.24	79		
1947	10,740	106	103	209	4	7	11	20.48	50	63	113	10.52	1	1	2	9.09	107		
1948	10,840	69	84	153	7	4	11	15.13	53	62	115	10.61	—	3	3	18.29	49		
1949	11,000	74	83	157	3	3	6	14.82	78	92	170	15.45	1	2	3	18.41	— 7		
1950	11,060	78	81	159	6	5	11	15.37	68	59	127	11.84	2	1	3	17.65	43		

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT

								<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Phthisis, Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Tuberculosis, Other	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cerebral Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	11
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	13
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
All Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
								68	59

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUPS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 1 year	2	1	3
1—4	1	—	1
5—14	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—
25—34	1	—	1
35—44	3	2	5
45—54	7	3	10
55—64	8	5	13
65—74	15	25	40
75 and over	31	23	54
TOTALS	68	59	127

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1950

	England and Wales	126 County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000— 50,000 1931 Census	London Admin. County	East Grinstead U.D.
Births					
Live Births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	15.98
Still Births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.27
Deaths					
All Causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	9.30
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.54
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.09
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	—
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.45
Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Scarlet Fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	2.71
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	2.7
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	—
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	1.7
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	0.30
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)—					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.0
Non-Paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	—
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	—
Deaths					
All Causes under 1 year of age	29.8	33.8	29.4	26.3	17.6
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	—
Notifications (Corrected)					
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	5.7
MATERNAL MORTALITY					
			Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births		
			England & Wales	East Grinstead	
Abortion with sepsis ... ..	...	...	0.09	—	
Other Abortion ... ..	...	...	0.05	—	
Complication of Pregnancy and Delivery ... ..	...	...	0.54	—	
Sepsis of Childbirth and the puerperium ... ..	...	...	0.03	—	
Other Complications of the puerperium ... ..	...	...	0.15	—	

* Standardised Birth and Death Rates

After a short time considerable nuisance was caused from decaying fruit and vegetable refuse being deposited on the site. The area became a breeding place for flies, and, situated in the centre of the town, was becoming a danger to public health.

On my recommendation the Council enclosed the area by erecting a fence which prevented street traders from using the site. No new trading site has been established, and street traders from outside the district have not returned.

At their meeting on 4th August, 1950, the Council adopted the following recommendations regarding street trading.

"It is recommended that for stalls at or from which any food is sold or exposed for sale in the open air, a standard which will normally satisfy the term 'reasonably necessary' is as under :—

- (a) The stall (if not placed in an enclosed and covered market place) shall be suitably covered over, screened at the back and the sides, and protected at the front by a shield. The last requirement would be satisfied, for example, by a screen (transparent or otherwise) rising say eighteen inches from the surface on which the food is placed and returning towards the stallback for at least eighteen inches.
- (b) Food which is to be sold or exposed for sale from a stall shall not, prior to its being placed on the stall, be stored otherwise than in a closed container of such construction as will prevent the contamination of food.
- (c) No food shall be placed for sale from any stall within 30 ins. of the ground."

In two cases street traders have complied with these requirements by providing mobile shops, motor vehicles converted to display fruit and vegetables under cover.

No food is now sold from barrows and stalls.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The services of the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Telephone : Brighton 23506) are available to this Department and to Medical Practitioners in the district for the investigation of cases of infectious disease.

The laboratory is in a position to accept work such as the bacteriological and biological examination of milk, water, ice cream, foods and pathological specimens. Laboratory investigations of outbreaks of communicable disease, including the detection and elimination of carriers and other reservoirs of infection, are also carried out.

Containers may be obtained from the laboratory or from this Department and specimens may be sent to the laboratory *via* the Southdown Bus Company. Collections are made at Brighton terminus at 2.30 p.m., 4.30 p.m., and 7 p.m. (except on Sundays ; on Saturdays only one collection is made at 12.30 p.m.).

Specimens for the Bacteriologist may be left at the Public Health Department, Council Offices, East Court, before 4 p.m. and will be placed on a bus in time to reach Brighton for the 7 p.m. collection.

The laboratory is open to receive urgent specimens between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Sundays, and in cases of extreme urgency during non-working hours the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Dr. J. E. Jameson, may be telephoned at Preston 6960.

The following prophylactics are held at the laboratory for issue free of charge to Medical Practitioners.

Vaccine Lymph.

Adult serum for measles prophylaxis.

Other types of vaccines, anti-toxins and serums are not held but information regarding them may be obtained from the Director.

WATER SUPPLY

Water for the greater part of East Grinstead is supplied by the South Eastern Gas Board. A few houses on the northern boundary at Felbridge are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company.

The South Eastern Gas Board have deep wells at Hackenden, Placeland and Forest Row, which together with the Medway Intake at Forest Row comprise the four sources of supply.

The raw water is aerated, subjected to sedimentation, mechanical filtration, automatic superchlorination and finally before going into supply to dechlorination to give a free residual of 1 p.p.m. of chlorine. A consistent safe and palatable water supply is thus assured.

Water from each supply is subjected to laboratory examination monthly. Samples from each source are submitted to the Royal Institute of Public Health by the South Eastern Gas Board for chemical and bacteriological examination. Four samples per year, taken from various points on the main supply throughout the area, are submitted by the East Grinstead Urban and Uckfield Rural District Councils to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

The reports on all samples submitted during the year have indicated that the quality of the water supply to the area has been of a high standard both chemically and bacteriologically.

It was not necessary to restrict the supply at any time throughout the year.

Approximately 3100 dwelling houses have a piped public water supply. Of these, 9 houses catering for 22 persons, are supplied by means of standpipes. It is estimated that 62 premises are supplied by piped estate supplies and private wells.

HOUSING

The total number of permanent houses completed by the Council during the year was 50. Forty-eight of these houses form part of the Council's Stone-quarry No. 2 Housing Scheme and include eight one-bedroom flats. The remaining two houses were on the Ashurst Wood Scheme.

The number of families housed by the Council during the year was 76 and at 31st December, 1950, the number of applicants for houses on the Council's waiting list was 362, an increase of 3 on the previous year's total.

Twelve houses were built by private builders.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

The Ambulance Service in East Grinstead is as follows:—

Number of Ambulances :—	2.
Ambulance Station :—	Phillips Garage, 219 London Road, East Grinstead.
Telephone Number :—	East Grinstead 488.
Area Served :—	East Grinstead, Forest Row, Hartfield, West Hoathly, Worth.

A day and night service is available and calls are accepted from doctors, nurses, midwives and hospitals in the area. Cases of accident or sudden emergency are the only calls accepted direct from members of the public.

The conveyance of persons suffering from illness is done by ambulances belonging to the British Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Brigade and other voluntary organisations, by arrangement with the East Sussex County Council.

As an economy measure and since May, 1951, cases of infectious disease have been removed to isolation hospital in the above ambulances. After conveyance of infectious patients the ambulances are disinfected before returning to normal service.

SANITARY SUPERVISION

Housing Inspections

Inspections made under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	85
Inspections made under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	81

Other Inspections

Inspections of Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	32
Meatshops and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	129
Fishshops	...	...	...	...	189
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	18
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	6
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	199
Factories (not included in other totals)	...	...	...	...	19
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	6
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	79
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	89
Ice Cream Regulations	...	...	...	...	69
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	18
Public Health	...	...	...	...	1
Fly Infestations...	...	...	...	...	7
Public Houses (Food and Drugs Act)	...	...	...	...	1
Inspections under Pest Destruction Acts	...	...	...	...	181
Other Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	7
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	5
Disinfestations carried out	...	...	...	...	...

SUMMARY OF MAIN DEFECTS ABATED IN TERMS OF PREMISES

Drains amended and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	19
Water-closets repaired, lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves, gutters and downspouts renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Internal Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
House floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Doors and door jambs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Windows and other woodwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Water supplies amended and provided	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yards and passages repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dairies reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cesspools converted to septic tank and filter	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hotel connected to sewer in lieu of cesspool	...	...	...	...	...	...
Streams cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chemical closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...
Commercial kitchens disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handwashing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wash coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fly infestations cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...

ACTION UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE HOUSING ACT 1936

One four-roomed house and one single-storied dwelling comprising two rooms and an outhouse, found to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost were the subject of statutory notices under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. In each case the owners gave undertakings that the premises would not be used for human habitation.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

During the year 623 visits were made to food premises and below are details of the foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

MEAT— 199 lbs.

FISH— Wet, 46 stones $3\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Cured $6\frac{1}{2}$ stones ; Prawns 48 lbs.

TINNED FOODSTUFFS—

Meat ...	29 tins	Vegetables ...	123 tins	Sausages ...	1 tin
Fish ...	36 tins	Spaghetti ...	34 tins	Xmas pudding	1 tin
Milk ...	273 tins	Jam ...	9 tins		
Fruit ...	80 tins	Soup ...	9 tins		

OTHER FOODSTUFFS—

Butter	2 lbs.	Boiling fowls	6	Sandwich spread	4 jars
Cheese	$28\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Poultry	$6\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Salad cream	1 bottle
Bacon	$68\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Biscuits	8 lbs.	Tomato sauce	3 bottles
Tea	8 lbs.	Rolled oats	1 cwt.	Milo tonic food	1 tin
Sausages	33 lbs.	Paste	5 jars	Apples	40 lbs.

MILK

The following Dealer's Licences authorising the use of special designations were issued and in force during the year ended 31st December, 1950.

<i>Special Designation</i>	<i>No. of Licences Issued</i>
Pasteurised	2
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	1
Tuberculin Tested	3

There are four registered distributors of milk in the district and of these two sell only designated milks.

No order has yet been made declaring East Grinstead to be a "specified area" in which only designated milk shall be sold, but I am pleased to record the growing sale of designated milks, centrally bottled in approved establishments.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year 106 inspections were made under the Factories Act, 1937. In no case was statutory action found necessary.

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ...	32	28	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	58	78	5	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	90	106	5	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases where prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	3	7	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-workers)	—	1	—	1	—
TOTAL	5	9	—	5	—

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ one full-time Rodent Officer on Pest Destruction.

During the year 76 complaints were received. 1817 visits under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, were made and 137 infestations treated.

Regular inspections have been made at the Durkins Road and Eden Vale refuse tips, housing estates and other Council properties.

Systematic inspections have been made throughout the district and 56 infestations were found in this way.

A 10% test of sewers was completed in February to the satisfaction of the Inspector from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

A nominal charge for rodent destruction is made to householders. Business premises are charged with the actual cost of treatment in accordance with the agreement between the Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This work is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

House refuse is collected weekly. Trade refuse is collected at the request of the trader concerned and charges at cost plus 15% are made.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping at Eden Vale during the warmer months, and at Durkins Road refuse tip for the remaining months of the year. Before being covered newly-tipped refuse is treated with gammexane insecticide to prevent breeding of flies.

Monthly inspections of both refuse tips have been made by the Public Health Department to ascertain possible nuisance caused by rodents and flies.

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL WELFARE CENTRES

The following table shows the clinics held at the East Sussex County Council's Welfare Centre, Moat View, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

<i>CLINICS</i>	<i>DAYS AND TIMES</i>
School Minor Ailments DOCTORS' SESSIONS	Mondays to Fridays—9 to 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays—10 a.m.
Dental MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS SCHOOL CHILDREN	Alternate Wednesdays—By appointment. Every Friday—By appointment.
Child Guidance	Every Friday—By appointment.
Orthopaedic DOCTORS' SESSIONS	Monday afternoon—By appointment. Thursday morning—By appointment. By appointment.
Chest Clinic	2nd and 4th Thursdays each month—2 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination	2nd Thursday each month—2.15 p.m.
Schick-test and Reading	4th and 5th Thursdays each month—2.15 p.m.
Ante Natal DISTRICT NURSES CUCKFIELD HOSPITAL PATIENTS	1st and 2nd Wednesdays—2.15 p.m. 3rd Wednesday each month—2.15 p.m.
Post Natal	2nd Wednesday—2.15 p.m.
Infant Welfare DOCTORS' SESSIONS	Every Monday (except 5th Monday in the month)—2 to 4 p.m. 2nd and 3rd Mondays—2 to 4 p.m.
Speech Therapy	Every Tuesday—By appointment.

The following Clinic is held at St. Dunstan's Hall, Maypole Road, Ashurst Wood.

Infant Welfare DOCTORS' SESSION	1st Thursday each month—2 to 4.30 p.m.
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